Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D.C.

20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In the Matter of

Revision of Part 22 of the Commission's Rules Governing the Public Mobile Services

CC Docket No. 92-115

To: The Commission

## REPLY COMMENTS OF NEW PAR

Pursuant to Section 1.415(c) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.415(c), New Par hereby submits these Reply Comments in connection with the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ("Notice"), 7 F.C.C. Rcd. 3658, in the above-captioned proceeding.

The comments submitted in response to the Notice overwhelmingly support most of the Commission's proposals. Several cellular commenters, however, expressed reservations over the Commission's proposal to eliminate the requirement that cellular licensees file Forms 489 upon implementing minor modifications to their systems. 1 These reservations are apparently rooted in the carriers' understanding that the Notice also proposed to eliminate protection against interference for these

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See, e.g., Comments of U.S. West Newvector Group at 9; Comments of U.S.T.A. at 3.

facilities constructed without the filing of a Form 489.<sup>2</sup>
As a result, some of these carriers have advocated that
the Commission retain the Form 489 filing requirement for
minor modifications -- or at least make the filing of
Forms 489 permissive -- to ensure that such facilities
will be protected against interference.<sup>3</sup>

New Par submits that the filing of a Form 489 is unnecessary to ensure interference protection. Rather, the Commission should clarify that cellular licensees are entitled to interference protection for all cellular facilities -- including those constructed without the filing of a Form 489 -- so long as the cell's service area contour is contained within the licensee's CGSA. Indeed, the rules provide that new or modified cells whose service area contours are within (or coterminous with) the licensee's CGSA are protected from electrical

The pertinent language is found in Appendix A, which discusses proposed Section 22.163:

We are proposing to eliminate the requirement that licensees notify the Commission of [minor] modifications. Of course, there would no record of the modifications in the station files or computer databases; consequently, these transmitters might not be protected from interference. Notice, 7 F.C.C. Rcd. at 3667 (emphasis added).

 $<sup>\</sup>frac{\text{See}}{\text{Inc.}}$ ,  $\frac{\text{e.g.}}{\text{at }2-3}$ . Comments of Vanguard Cellular Systems,

interference.<sup>4</sup> Any contrary rule would discourage licensees from investing in the expansion and enhancement of their cellular systems. Further, were the Commission to extend interference protection only to those cells for which a Form 489 is filed, licensees would have an incentive to file Forms 489 for most, if not all, of their cells. This would be contrary to the Commission's goals of providing licensees greater flexibility and conserving Commission and industry resources.<sup>5</sup>

The absence of Form 489 filings will not produce uncertainty about where or how licensees will operate their cells. Licensees would still be obligated to disclose this information in accordance with prior frequency coordination guidelines contained in proposed Sections 22.150 and 22.907.6 Until now, frequency coordination among licensees, rather than Form 489 filings, has been the primary method for cellular carriers to

<sup>47</sup> C.F.R. § 22.903 ("The CGSA is the area within which cellular systems are entitled to protection [from interference] ...").

<sup>5</sup> See Notice, 7 F.C.C. Rcd. at 3667.

The Commission should clarify proposed Section 22.150, which implies that licensees are required to prior coordinate only when they file "an application" for a station. Id. at 3693. As provided in proposed Section 22.907, frequency coordination would be required whenever facilities are modified, whether or not an FCC application or notification is required.

determine whether their operations will cause interference to, or receive interference from, other cellular licensees' facilities.

Respectfully submitted,

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In fact, a licensee generally would not rely exclusively on a Form 489 filing to evaluate possible interference since most Forms 489 are not available from the Commission's files for at least several days after the modification is placed into operation. Nevertheless, to the extent that the Commission were not to extend interference protection to licensees for minor modifications that are not represented by a Form 489, New Par concurs that the Commission must permit carriers to file Forms 489 regarding modifications for which they seek interference protection.

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Timothy R. Robinson, do hereby certify that on this 5th day of November, 1992, a copy of the foregoing Reply Comments of New Par was mailed by first class U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, to the following persons:

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